

Please amend the application as follows:

Amendment to the Title:

Please delete the present title and substitute the following therefor:

--METHODS OF PRODUCING A COATED PREPARATION--.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~production~~ method of producing a coated preparation, which comprises coating a core containing an active ingredient with a dispersion of pioglitazone hydrochloride in an organic solvent, which contains polyvinylpyrrolidone ~~a coating base soluble in organic solvents~~.

2.-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~production~~ method of claim 3~~1~~, wherein the active ingredient is a therapeutic agent for diabetes.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~production~~ method of claim 4, wherein the therapeutic agent for diabetes is a biguanide.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~production~~ method of claim 5, wherein the biguanide is metformin hydrochloride.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~production~~ method of claim 1, wherein the organic solvent is an alcohol or a ketone.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~production~~ method of claim 1, wherein the organic solvent is ethanol.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) A method for improving dissolution of pioglitazone hydrochloride from a preparation coated with pioglitazone hydrochloride, which comprises, when producing said preparation, coating a core containing an active ingredient with a dispersion of pioglitazone hydrochloride in an organic solvent, which contains polyvinylpyrrolidone a ~~coating base soluble in organic solvents~~.

11.-12. (Canceled)